

February 15, 2024

NRP Steering Committee
Neonatal Resuscitation Program®

Dear Drs. Kapadia & Byrne and colleagues,

We are very pleased to receive the letter detailing your response to our concerns about the inclusion of midwifery in the development of policy and dissemination of training for Newborn Resuscitation.

We applaud the addition of a midwife to the Steering Committee. We believe the inclusion of accredited birth centers as places where clinicians can become instructors will positively impact the quality of care for babies born in birth centers.

We will also point out that licensed midwives (LMs) or Certified Professional Midwives (CPMs) attend births and care for newborns in settings their clients choose, including accredited birth centers. A significant percentage of births at accredited birth centers and the majority of home births in the United States are attended by CPMs.

The organizations representing LMs and CPMs are invested in the excellence of education and practice of midwifery both in the United States and globally, as is the American College of Nurse-Midwives. The North American Registry of Midwives values NRP and requires current NRP Provider status as a condition of certification and recertification for CPMs. This commitment is reflected by the fact that they signed our original plea for representation.

Because LM/CPMs work in, lead, and own CABC-Accredited Birth Centers, we hope that the person who represents midwifery on the NRP steering committee understands the training and scope of practice of midwives of all credentials, as well as the practice of midwifery and care of newborns in all settings, including birth locations without neonatal specialists.

We intend to support our ACNM representative in that endeavor. We will also continue to advocate for the integration of midwifery care from the community setting to all levels of hospital care—because all babies and mothers will benefit from our collaboration.

Sincerely,

American Association of Birth Centers
Commission for the Accreditation of Birth Centers
North American Registry of Midwives
American College of Nurse-Midwives
National Association of Certified Professional Midwives
Birth Center Equity
Elephant Circle